



## COVID-19 Update for key stakeholders



**11 March 2021**

### **COVID cases**

On 10 March we had 16 new cases. The infection rate is 32/100,000 across the NHS Highland area: 19/100,000 in Argyll and Bute and 40/100,000 in North Highland. These cases are primarily concentrated in the Inverness area.

We currently have positive cases in a Care for the Elderly ward in Raigmore. This situation is being closely monitored, with all close contacts isolating. All patients in the ward have previously been offered vaccination except where clinical advice was against this. Visiting to this ward has been suspended.

We have a total of nine inpatient cases in Raigmore, plus four in ITU, and two in Argyll and Bute. There have been 165 recorded deaths in the NHS Highland area since the start of the pandemic: 94 in Highland and 71 in Argyll and Bute.

### **Vaccination**

NHS Highland continues to vaccinate patients in line with the Scottish Government and guidance for the vaccination programme. We have exceeded the target of vaccinating over 85% of all those aged over 65 (Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunization (JCVI) cohort groups 1-5).

We are now starting first dose vaccinations for cohort 6, 'clinically at risk 16-65'. This large group is being split into sub groups:

- 6a those at risk based on a modified version of the flu vaccination list
- 6b carers in receipt of SSS allowance
- 6c those at risk due to additional risk conditions
- 6d other unpaid carers

A national registration system is being developed for unpaid carers to self-identify. Until this is in place we are working on other parts of cohort 6 and Scottish Government has also permitted vaccination to start for cohort 7, 60-64 year olds, where there is sufficient vaccine.

We have given 112,024 people their first dose vaccination: 43.4% of the population over age 16 compared to 39.8% for Scotland as a whole. Vaccination data is now available on the Scottish Government's daily [interactive dashboard](#).